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physiologies, but the emphasis is laid on the training of the body for efficiency. Thus much is said concerning the importance of good posture and how to secure it; how one trains the muscles of the body that they may be efficient, enduring and strong; the nature and characteristics of useful exercise; how digestion is most efficiently carried on. The whole point of view concerns the training of the individual to most efficient conduct. It relates particularly to the large physiological functions of digestion, circulation, nutrition, and respiration."

The particular merits of this book are: (a) the care of health is made practical and interesting by relating it to the everyday life of the child; (b) the hygienic habits recommended are based on authoritative scientific observations and not on the extravagant claims of theorists; (c) the emphasis is placed on the forming of wholesome habits of bodily conduct rather than mere facts of anatomy and physiology; (d) there is adequate and scientific treatment of the effects of alcohol upon growth, and the subject of physical education.

Those who are anxious for radical improvement in the teaching of hygiene to school children will welcome this volume and the whole series to which it belongs.

Primer of Sanitation. By JOHN W. RITCHIE. Yonkers-on-Hudson, N. Y.: World Book Co., 1909. Pp. vi+200. \$0.50.

Ten years ago a primer on sanitation would have been received with little favor by school principals and superintendents. Today the widespread interest in all matters pertaining to health and the prevention of disease is creating a demand for instruction in these subjects. The reason for giving such instruction in the schools is well stated in the preface of this volume: "The most effective way of reaching the present generation of Americans is through their children, and our country can hope to shake off completely the burden of preventable disease only when a generation of American citizens has been systematically instructed in the principles of sanitation."

The chapter-headings show the wide range of topics covered: I. "Why the Study of Disease Germs is Important"; II. "The Cells of the Body"; III. "Disease Germs and How They Get into the Body"; IV. "The Struggle between the Body and the Germs"; V. "Bacteria"; VI. "The Skin"; VII. "The Pus-forming Bacteria"; VIII. "Tetanus (Lockjaw)"; IX. "The Air-Passages and the Lungs"; X. "Diphtheria"; XI. "Pneumonia"; XII. "Influenza, Whooping-Cough, and Colds"; XIII. "Tuberculosis"; XIV. "The Treatment of Consumption"; XV. "Disease Germs in Dust"; XVI. "The Alimentary Canal"; XVII. "Typhoid Fever"; XVIII. "Diseases Caused by Relatives of the Typhoid Germ"; XIX. "Other Bacterial Diseases of the Intestines"; XX. "Disease Germs in Water"; XXI. "Other Bacterial Diseases"; XXII. "Protozoa"; XXIII. "Malaria Fever and Yellow Fever"; XXIV. "Mosquitoes"; XXV. "Smallpox"; XXVI. "Other Protozoan Diseases"; XXVII. "Intestinal Worms"; XXVIII. "The Importance of Sanitation"; XXIX. "The Housefly"; XX. "Disease Germs in Food"; XXXI. "Disinfection"; XXXII. "Unhygienic Habits"; XXXIII. "Public Sanitation"; XXXIV. "What Governments Can Do to Preserve Public Health"; XXXV. "Practical Sanitation."

The treatment is thoroughly scientific, and the essential facts of the various

topics are presented in simple, clear, and interesting language, free from unnecessary technical terms. At the end of each chapter the important facts are re-stated under the caption, "Points to be Remembered." The pictures and diagrams are very well chosen to illustrate the essential points in the text. The book is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is intended.

GEORGE L. MEYLAN

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The Halcyon Song-Book. Compiled and arranged by LEONARD B. MARSHALL.
New York: Silver, Burdett & Co., 1909. Pp. 224. \$0.75.

This song book is characterized throughout by youthful buoyancy; the majority of the songs are rousing, but those of a more gentle nature have quite active melodies.

Most of the four-part choruses if forced to do without the bass part would show the lack plainly; but the book contains a large number of well-arranged trios, in which the two lower parts are nearly as melodious as the soprano.

A number of our familiar folk-songs give the melody to the bass part, thus affording the fifteen-year-old boy an excellent opportunity for doing the thing he loves best—growling the soprano an octave below.

Very few of these songs are too difficult for the eighth grade, and probably none would severely tax the upper high-school classes.

W. P. KENT

ETHICAL CULTURE SCHOOL
NEW YORK CITY

The Principles of Soil Management. By T. LYTTLETON LYON AND ELMER O. FIPPIN. New York: Macmillan, 1909. Pp. xxxiii+531. Illustrated. \$1.75.

It has given me great pleasure to examine this textbook. The book deals almost entirely with the principles of soil technology, giving excellent application of general rules to local practice. It is my opinion that this is one of the best books yet produced for college work on the study of soils. It is not adapted to the work of secondary schools, but would make a most excellent reference book for such schools. The chapters on "Soil Water," "Plant Nutrients of the Soil," and "Organisms in the Soil" are much to be commended.

Agriculture for Common Schools. By M. L. FISHER AND F. A. COTTON, New York: Scribner, 1909. Pp. xxiii+381.

The topics treated are as follows: "Soils," "Farm Crops," "Horticulture," "Animal Husbandry," "Dairying." The book is well illustrated and well written. It is well adapted to secondary schools giving a course of one year in agriculture. Indeed, for such a course of work it is, in my judgment, one of the best books I have examined. The treatment of each subject is excellent, but not sufficiently extensive for a course in agriculture in secondary schools where the subject is treated in each year.